AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1- 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) An apparatus for removing an anti-noncollagenous domain of collagen (NC1) antibody and NC1 from blood, comprising:

an affinity column wherein ~~the~~ an anti NC1 monoclonal antibody ~~of claim 11~~ is immobilized for dialyzing blood to remove NC1 in ~~sera of~~ the blood; and

an affinity column wherein an NC1 is immobilized for dialyzing the blood to remove anti NC1 antibody in ~~sera of~~ the blood.

19. (Currently amended) A method for removing an anti NC1 antibody and NC1 from blood, comprising the steps of:

providing the apparatus of claim 18;

dialyzing blood obtained from a subject having symptoms of nephritis to remove NC1 in ~~sera of~~ the blood by passing the blood through the anti NC1 monoclonal antibody-immobilized affinity column;

further dialyzing the blood to remove anti NC1 antibody in ~~sera of~~ the blood by passing the blood through the NC1-immobilized affinity column; and

recycling the blood from which the NC1 and the anti NC1 antibody are removed into ~~the~~ an internal circulation of the body.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the subject has symptoms of anti GBM antibody nephritis.

21. (New) A method of identifying presence of nephritis in a mammal, comprising:

- obtaining a biological sample from the mammal;

- exposing the sample to anti-noncollagenous domain of collagen (NC1) antibody;

- identifying binding of the antibody to antigen present in the sample, wherein significant binding indicates presence of nephritis in the mammal.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said antibody is monoclonal.

23. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said biological sample is urine.

24. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said biological sample is serum.

25. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said biological sample is derived from kidney.

26. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein identifying binding of the antibody comprises an immune reaction assay.

27. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein identifying binding of the antibody comprises an Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent Assay (ELISA) assay.

28. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein identifying binding of the antibody comprises an assay selected from the group consisting of an AB method, a radio-labeled compound (RIA) method, an immunoluminescence method, a precipitation method, and an agglutination method.

29. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein identifying binding of the antibody comprises immunofluorescent staining.

30. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the presence of nephritis is identified before granular deposition of IgA into renal glomerular basement membrane (GBM) of the mammal.

31. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the presence of nephritis is identified before formation of glomerular crescent in the mammal.